

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

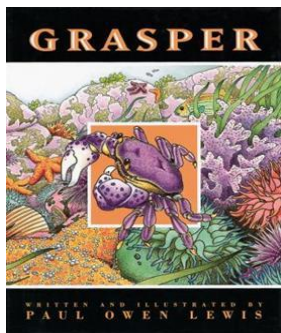
THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND



COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **May 10:** *Soundside Science & Story Time* for ages 3-5, 10 AM
- **Applications Now Being Accepted** for our Summer Camps! Check them out at www.coresound.com/camp

Sound Reading Material For You & Your Child



Grasper: A Young Crab's Discovery

By Paul Owen Lewis

Grasper the crab gains self-confidence after exploring the world outside his tide pool. He comes out of his shell, travels beyond his small, comfortable world, and brings back an inspirational message of possibility and courage to his fellow crabs who remained in the old tidepool.

Grade Level: 1-2
Pages: 36

Precious Stones

Stone crabs (*Menippe sp.*) can be found in our coastal and offshore waters. Their preferred habitats include sandy and muddy bottoms, rocky outcrops, and seagrass beds ranging from the shallow shoreline to offshore depths of up to 200 feet. In North Carolina, it is unlawful to possess any stone crabs from June 15 – August 15. There is no possession limit during open season.

Stone crabs are strange-looking animals. Their small bodies are dwarfed by two enormous claws, of which one is much bigger. The larger claw is called the crusher, and the smaller claw is called the ripper. The crusher holds the crab's food and can defend against predators. The ripper is a sort of scissor-like appendage that cuts and shreds food. To eat, a crab will grab food with the crusher, break it open, and use the ripper to tear bits off and feed itself. These claws and their incredible strength also allow the crab to defend itself against rivals and predators. As you can tell, without its claws, a stone crab is pretty much dead in the water. For that reason, the stone crab has evolved with regenerative powers. It loses a claw, and the claw grows back! Through a series of molting cycles, the crab will grow back its claws allowing it to continue surviving.

The stone crab fishery is unique in that only the claws are harvested, and the crabs are returned to the water. Whether the declawed crab survives is dependent on the water temperature and how the claw is broken. How the crabs are handled by our fisherman before and after the claws are removed is very important.

Stone crabs, like other crabs, naturally lose claws from time to time, and the survival rate is close to 100%. In the fishery, if the joint linking the body to the claw is left intact, a stone crab has a good chance of surviving and regenerating its claw. After a claw is removed, a thin layer of tissue called the diaphragm instantly acts as a seal to close the wound and stops any bleeding. Claws should *never* be twisted off as this can result in muscle being torn from the crab's body. Instead, a claw should be removed with a quick, downward snap at the body/claw joint to ensure the diaphragm can work correctly.



photo from
Melissa Willis

Gratitude & Goals



Bodie Goodwin



Meet Bodie Goodwin. He is the son of Buddy and Angie Goodwin from Cedar Island. His grandparents are Harry Michael and Anne Fulcher of Atlantic and Leroy and Agatha Goodwin of Cedar Island. Bodie has a sister, Riley Whitlow, and brother-in-law, Cameron to whom he is very close.

Bodie will be joining the United States Coast Guard after graduating from East Carteret High School in June. His departure date is set for August 29 when he will report to Cape May, New Jersey for boot camp. Boot camp will last eight weeks after which Bodie will be an E3 Seaman.

After boot camp, Bodie will attend the USCG Training Center (TRACEN) in Yorktown, Virginia. This is one of eight major Coast Guard training facilities in the United States. Bodie will train there for thirteen weeks before getting assigned to his first station. Bodie has committed to six years in the USCG, but he plans to make it a career from which he will retire.

Bodie spends his free time hunting and fishing. He loves it! He says he has hunted and fished since he could walk. His father is a third-generation commercial fisherman and has taught Bodie all he knows about the water. His father has shown him how the water can provide.

Bodie has also worked with Zack Davis on the F/V *Addie and Dallas*, a commercial fishing vessel located in Marshallberg, for three years. Bodie describes this job to be the best experience of his life, and he considers himself blessed to have worked with Zack for he has taught Bodie much about hard work and life.

Bodie believes that living Down East has prepared him for many things in life, including, but not limited to, his decision to join the USCG. Bodie shared, "I have always been blessed with the best group of friends and family that have always supported me no matter what. I love my community. I have always been proud to be from Down East. I have been blessed with a lot of positive people in my life that all want the best for me. Some of the people that inspired me the most are not with us anymore, one of them being my grandfather, Harry Michael Fulcher. He was always helping someone out. He would give you the shirt off of his back even if that's all he had left. He taught me at a young age to help people that need it the most, and that's why I am joining the USCG to serve and help and protect this great country we live in."

Bodie would like for his peers to realize there is a big world out there. He encourages, "Go and see it! Go Test yourself. Push yourself to the limit. You only have one life to live. Live it to the fullest. Follow your dreams. I promise if you put your mind to it [with] 110% effort your dreams will become a reality. I have overcome challenges by surrounding myself with positive attitudes. You won't get very far in life with a bad attitude everyday. I live by that."